PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

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(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

(Rationalised Report according to the Notice of the President of the EPO published in the OJ11/2001)

O1P58WO International application No. PCT/EP03/13501 International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C10B49/00 Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) Priority date (day/month/year) 23/12/2002 C10B49/00							
PCT/EP03/13501 01/12/2003 23/12/2002 International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C10B49/00 Applicant OUTOKUMPU OX.1 et al. 1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCI). These annexes consists of a total of sheets. 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: 1	Applicant's or agent's file reference 01P58W0	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)					
International Patent Classification (FPC) or national classification and IPC C10B49/00 Applicant CUTOKUMPU OYJ et al. 1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 35. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 2 sheets, including this cover sheet. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consists of a total of sheets. 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I Basis of the report II Priority III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV Lack of unity of invention V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement VI Certain documents cited VII Certain defects in the international application VIII Certain observations on the international application Date of submission of the domand O2/07/2004 Date of submission of the IPEA/ Authorized officer	International application No.	International filing date (day/n	nonth/year) Pr	iority date (day month year)			
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT



The basis of this international preliminary examination is the application as originally filed.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).